

## Teen Driving Program

### Distracted driving

We're surrounded by distractions on the road. While texting and driving is a leading cause of distraction behind the wheel, distracted driving is ANY activity that takes a person's attention away from the primary task of driving. Talking on the phone, eating and drinking, using a GPS, adjusting radio controls and talking with passengers are all forms of distracted driving that can lead to injury or death.

- Every 24 seconds in the United States, a crash is caused by distracted driving.
- Your risk of crashing is 23 times higher while texting and driving.
- With each additional passenger in the car, crash risk for teens increases.



### How Wisconsin law protects

- Cell phone use is banned for new drivers. Some communities have additional local laws that limit technology use.
- Wisconsin state law forbids driving any motor vehicle while composing or sending a text or email. Wisconsin's texting ban is a primary enforcement law, which means law enforcement officers may stop motorists suspected of this offense alone.
- It is illegal for all drivers to use a handheld mobile device while driving in a Wisconsin road work zone.
- Wisconsin's Graduated Driver Licensing law limits the number of passengers during the Instruction Permit and Probationary periods of driver licensure for teen drivers.

Source: Wisconsin Department of Transportation

### Reduce your risk

- Always wear a seat belt.
- Commit to driving safely and distraction-free, no matter what.
- Turn off your phone to prevent incoming and outgoing messages, calls and notifications while driving.
- Enlist the help of your passengers to avoid distraction, and speak up as a passenger if your driver is distracted.
- Plan ahead: eat, finish getting ready, get organized and know where you are going before your drive.

[childrenswi.org/teendriving](https://childrenswi.org/teendriving)

